Appl. No. 09/819,020
Amdt. Dated Feb. 1, 2005
Reply to Office action of Nov. 1, 2004

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 5-7, with the following amended paragraph:

The present application is related to copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ~~IRI05436~~ 09/817,388 being assigned to the same assignee as the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 12-21, with the following amended paragraph:

In the present invention, each ~~use of~~ user terminal is also interconnected via a session initiation protocol (SIP) connection to each of the other user terminals in the conference. That is, for example, user terminal 10 is interconnected to user terminal 11 via interconnection 41; to user terminal 12 via interconnection 42, which is shown in a dashed line in part to indicate that there is no connection to bridge 30 or controller 32, and to user terminal 13 via interconnection 43.

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 26-35, with the following amended paragraph:

If each of the user terminals will not support multiple bearer formats, block 111 transfers control to block 113 via the NO path. Block 113 determines whether the bearer formats which were negotiated are homogeneous. If the negotiated formats are homogeneous, block 113 transfers control to block 123 via the YES path. This indicates that there is a LCD codec for use by each of the parties. If the negotiated formats are not homogeneous, block 113 transfers control to block 115 via the NO path.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 22-24, with the following amended paragraph:

In response to the call origination process 100, conference bridge executes, block 125, the following setup procedure, block ~~141~~ 140, beginning at block 141.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 31, through page 9, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

Conference bridge 30 sends a message to parties A, B and C (user terminals 10, 11 and 12) via internet interconnections 44, 54 and 64 to use the conference bridge as an end point for the voice packet data transmissions, block 147. The conference bridge is then an established block 149 and procedure 140 is ended. The user terminals update their states to reflect that the conference bridge ~~is~~ is now the bearer endpoint, instead of the user terminals. The conference bridge is established and procedure 100 is also ended, block 127.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 14-25, with the following amended paragraph:

In the token or control passing arrangement 200, token control is simplified by examining the header of the real time protocol to determine a data packet of silence in the preferred embodiment. This greatly simplifies the processing capability required for the conference call and such conferencing circuitry may be employed in a user terminal or even in a mobile handset. In an alternate embodiment, each data packet may be examined for the voice

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coded silence (as well as ~~noise~~ noise detection to determine "babble" or a noisy environment).

This embodiment requires considerably more real time processing power.

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